Indo-Russian recent agreement

2096. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister alongwith a high level delegation visited Russia recently and held discussions and also signed a number of agreements there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sale of Russian arms to Pakistan and India was also discussed; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir. Prime Minister visited Russia from 29 June—2 July 1994. The official delegation included Commerce Minister, Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism, Minister of State (PMO) and Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri R. L. Bhatia, apart from senior officials. The following documents were signed during the visit:

(1) Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States.

(2) Declaration on the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation between India and the Russian Federation.

(3) Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology.

(4) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Information Technology.

(5) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Tourism.

(6) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources.

(7) Agreement on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.

(8) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Science and Technology Cooperation in the field of Meteorology.

(9) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Science and Technology Cooperation in the field of Meteorology.

(10) Agreement on Formation of Indo-Russian Aviation Private Ltd.

(11) Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to the Republic of India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and for purchasing special equipment.

(b) A summary of the salient features of each document is given in enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Our concerns regarding possible arms sales to Pakistan were conveyed to the Russian side and the Russian side has indicated its intention to take into account our sentiments on this question.

So far as arms sales to India are concerned, the Russian side reiterated its willingness to supply both spares and equipment to India. There is regular interaction on this issue and both countries are desirous of developing cooperation in the defence sector.

Statement

Prime Minister's visit to Russia (29 June—2 July 1994) Agreements to be signed between India and Russia

Moscow Declaration on the Protection of the Interests of Pluralistic States: Recognition of growing threat from aggressive nationalism, religious and political extremism, terrorism, separatism

to the unity of pluralistic states, Inadmissable to arouse interethnic, inter-religious hatred. Support for the territorial integrity of these states. India understands Russian concerns that the fundamental human rights of all people in the FSU states should be safeguarded. Russia appreciates the efforts made by the Government and the people of India to strenghen social harmony, preserve territorial integrity, support to actions taken by India to strengthen social harmony, preserve its territorial integrity, to create atmosphere of confidence in South Asia. International community, international organisations urged to respect integrity of theses states.

2. *On the Further Development and Intensification of Cooperation*: Cooperation on such, areas as terrorism, subversion, international crime, disarmament. In the area of trade and investment, encouragement to private and public sectors, joint ventures, investments. In the area of Science and Technology, cooperation in the areas of nuclear energy, outer space, passenger aircraft, information. Cooperation in the area of culture and human resources development. Concrete steps under the CEP. Concern over the continuing tension on the Tadjik-Afghan border. Affinity of approach with regard to the Asia Pacific Region and the situation in Afghanistan. Support to the inter-Tadjik dialogue.

3. *Cooperation in Science and Technology:* Cooperation in fundamental and applied research, industrial research Encouragement of direct contacts. Exchange of scientists, scientific information, joint research, laboratories and setting up of design bureau. Reseach activities under ILTP Nodal departments, Department of Science and Technology, India and Ministry of Science and Technolog and Technology Policy, Russia.

4. *Tourism Cooperation*: Establishment of contacts between organizations and companies. Simplification of immigration/customs. Facilitate the issuance of visas upto 3 months. Facilitate import and exchange of publicity material. Exchange of statistics, experience in hotel management, Assistance to each other in training of staff. Opening of representations in either country. Exchange of groups, promotion of individual tourism. Nodal Ministries/Ministries, Department of Tourism, Ministry of Civil Aviaion, India and State Committee for Physical Culture and Tourism

5. *Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purpose*: Russian Space Agency: Russian Space Agency and ISRO to be implementing agencies. Cooperation in the field of outer space, space medicines, manned flight, space flights. The planning and conduct of joint projects joint use of launch vehicles, space and ground facilities. Intellectual property protection. consultation on annual basis between the heads of the executive agencies Additional meetings between the Foreign Ministries if necessary.

6. *Cooperation in the Field of Indormation Technology Nodal agencies*: Department of Electronics from the Indian side and the Presidential Committee on Informatisation from the Russian side are the nodal agencies. Cooperation in areas such as promotion of joint ventures, joint information technology projects in ecology, medicine, management, banking, stock exchange. Presidential Committee on Informatisation Policy. Encouragement of reciprocal purchases of information technology. Setting up of a working group under the Indo-Russian Joint Commission.

7. Memorandum on S&T Cooperation in the Field of Meteorology between the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring : Joint work in the areas of meteorology, environmental monitoring, and climate. Exchange of scientists, information, joint projects Nodal agencies the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring.

8. Cooperation in the field of Protection of Environment and Natural Resources: Areas of cooperation include on subjects such as global environment, climatic changes, depletion of the ozone layer, conservation of biological diversity, protection of tigers and Siberian cranes. Prevention of trade in endangered species. The facilitation of direct contacts between organisations (state, public and private). The establishment of a working group. Forms of cooperation joint projects, exchange of information. Nodal agencies Ministry of Environment and Forests, India and the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources, Russia.

9. *Standardisation, Meterology and Certification*: Nodal agencies, Bureau of Indian Standards and the Committees of the Russian Federation for standardisation, Meteorology, and certification : A sub-working Group to be established. Cooperation in the field of standardisation, Meterology and certification. Joint research and standards specimen checks.

10. Defence related agreements:

Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to the Republic of India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and for purchasing special equipment, dated September 17, 1992: The Protocol makes amendments to the September 17, 1992 agreement and extends the period of utilisation of the credit till September 1996. US $ 830 million worth of special equipment is to be delivered under the Agreement. 5 per cent interest, 7 years repayment maintained.

11. *Agreement on formation of indo-Russian aviation Pvt. Ltd.* signed between Aviation Industries on Indian and Russia sides. Indian Partners are Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. The Russian partners are the Moscow Aircraft Production Organisation, The Mikoyan Design Bureau, State Corporation for Armaments Export 'Rosvoorouzheniye' and the Ryazan State Instruments Plant.

The Joint Venture will soon be registered under Indian Law and will provide a wide range of maintenance support and services to all aircraft of Russian origin in India and in third countries. The Joint Venture shall have an authorised share capital of US Dollars 400 million. Equity 50 : 50.

Setting up of Food Processing Industries in the State of Madhya Pradesh

2097. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make any assessment regarding potentiality of the State of Madhya Pradesh for the setting up of food processing industries; and

(b) what are the details and salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The assessment of potential of food processing industries in a State is done generally by the State concerned and the Ministry extends financial assistance under its Plan Schemes for studies including identification of potentials. No request for assistance has been received from Madhya Pradesh for such studies.

Setting up of Food Processing Industries

2098. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of unemployement in the country can be solved to some extent with the help of setting up of Food Processing Industries; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this direction?